

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF
GOVERNMENTS REGIONAL CONTINUUM OF CARE COMMITTEE ON
HOMELESSNESS
September 25, 2003**

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

*Allie Bones, Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness
*Jan Brewer, Secretary of State
Theresa James for Dennis Cahill, City of Tempe, Councilmember
Ernie Calderón (Chairman), Jennings, Strouss & Salmon, PLC
*Tom Canasi, City of Tempe, Planning Subcommittee Chair
Linda Snidecor for James Cavanaugh, City of Goodyear, Councilmember
Rex Critchfield, Department of Economic Security
*Sandra Dowling, Maricopa County Schools
*Ken Einbeinder, US Department of Housing and Urban Development
Michelle Ryan for Mike Franczak, Arizona Department of Health Services
Steve Frate, City of Glendale, Councilmember
*Mary Lou Hanley, AZ Department of Economic Security
Sheila D. Harris, Director, Arizona Department of Housing
Mark Holleran, Human Service Campus, LLC
*Ryan Johnson, World At Work
Fred Karnas, Arizona Family Housing Fund
Don Keuth, Phoenix Community Alliance
Riann Balch for Doug Lingner, City of Phoenix
Ann Lipp, Area Agency on Aging, HIV Care
Dan Lundberg, City of Surprise
Marvin Martin, Phoenix Revitalization Corporation
Meggan Medina, Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness
*Guy Mikkelsen, Foundation for Senior Living
Sara Moya, Homeless Trust Fund
Crucita Nunez-Ochoa, Chicanos Por La Causa
David Ortega, City of Scottsdale, Councilmember
*Suzanne Quigley, AZ Community Foundation

*Frank Scarpati, Community Bridges
Joyce Lopez-Powell for Brian Spicker, Valley of the Sun United Way
Larry Spurgeon, Arizona Department of Corrections
Louisa Stark, Community Housing Partnership
Annette Stein, Health Care for the Homeless
*Margaret Trujillo, Value Options
*Mike Whalen, City of Mesa
*Mary Rose Wilcox, Maricopa County
Barbara Williams, AZ Housing Commission/
Collaboration for a New Century
Terry Wogan, Governors Office
Diana Yazzie Devine, Native American Connections

OTHERS PRESENT

Deb Chapman, Maximus
Gregg Donnell, Project HOPE
Gloria S. Espino, City of Glendale
Erica Ferguson, SBH
Charlene Moran Flaherty, MAG Staff
Kellie Gutridge, Glendale Human Service Council
Gloria Hurtado, City of Phoenix
Connie James, City of Scottsdale
Dan Knocke, Community Dev Coalition of AZ
Robin Knox, Meta Services/Another Chance
Marty Mitchell, HUD
Arthur Morales Jr., SWBH/Path Homeless Outreach

**Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.*

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chairman Ernest Calderón called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m. and introductions ensued.

2. Approval of the June 26, 2003 Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Sara Moya and seconded by Mr. Steve Frate. The minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Planning Subcommittee Report

Chairman Calderón introduced Ms. Charlene Moran Flaherty, Homeless Planner at MAG, who reported on behalf of Mr. Tom Canasi, Chairman of the Planning Subcommittee. Ms. Flaherty reported on the Planning Subcommittee meeting of September 15, 2003. Discussion at the meeting involved the engagement of cities in implementing the Regional Plan, especially the role of community and faith-based organizations.

Ms. Flaherty stressed the need to move forward with faith-based involvement. She announced the Homeless Summit of several faith-based organizations taking place this Saturday, September 27, 2003 in Glendale. Ms. Flaherty will be presenting the Regional Plan and Best Practices from around the country. Members of the Planning Subcommittee will observe the process, and will see if this is a model that can be replicated, and what role the Continuum of Care can have in supporting similar initiatives.

Ms. Flaherty also announced the next Planning Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for October 20, 2003. The committee will continue this discussion and will discuss meeting with individual cities regarding inter-agency coordination of homeless services.

Ms. Sara Moya commented on the need to revisit the issue of the subcommittee structure and how the structure relates to the Maricopa Association of Governments. Fred Karnas stated that since we have a Homeless Plan the committee should look at the process and discuss what is the best structure to support the Plan.

Chairman Calderón responded by saying that the issue would be referred to the Executive Committee and would be addressed by December.

Ms. Barbara Williams commented that the committee should revisit the issue of dedicated funding and finding new funding.

4. Human Services Campus Report

Mr. Mark Holleran, Managing Director of the Human Services Campus, reported on the Campus' continuing progress. He began by noting that the LLC is indebted to Jennings, Strauss, Salmon for all of their assistance. Mr. Holleran went on to explain the governance of the Campus. It is structured as an LLC with members treated as

shareholders and managers. This is in order to encourage participants to feel comfortable in contributing. He stated that an Advisory Board has been created and that a Community Council is currently being put together.

Mr. Holleran went on to discuss the land acquired for the site, which has been obtained from a variety of county, city and private sources. The land is in need of archeological remediation as Hohokam artifacts dating from 800-1200 A.D. have been found at the site. These artifacts must be removed and given over to the city before construction can begin. The excavation permit has been given, fencing has been put in and 12th Avenue has been closed to traffic to allow for excavation.

Mr. Holleran also announced that a construction contract has been negotiated with D.L. Withers Construction. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$24,649,000 with \$17 million already raised. \$6.9 million has come from Maricopa County. The project completion time has been set for November-December, 2004.

He went on to note that because fundraising efforts will be unlikely to keep up with the costs of the project, a consortium of banks have been contacted in order to secure a construction loan and to close the gap in funds. He stated that it was likely that \$6 to \$9 million would be financed over a number of years and that the buildings themselves could be put up as collateral.

Mr. Holleran continued with an update of the Day Resource Center. He noted that the Campus' services would be open to the public and would not specifically target the homeless population. However, there has been discussion of launching a pilot outreach program at the Day Resource Center specifically for the chronically homeless.

Mr. Holleran closed his remarks by adding that the completion of the Campus will not end homelessness. He commented that the average demand for beds at the Central Arizona Shelter Services over the past two weeks was 416, though they have only 407 beds. He also noted that the Phoenix City Council did commit to bond money for a 200-bed shelter to be built north of Camelback Road.

Several members of the committee thanked Mr. Holleran for his remarks and the good work he is doing with the Human Services Campus.

5. HUD Housing Initiative San Jose Trip Report

Chairman Calderón introduced Mr. Don Keuth and asked him to report on the HUD Affordable Housing Initiative and trip to San Jose. Mr. Keuth opened his remarks by thanking HUD locally and Mr. Steve Saks in the Bay Area. Fifty-eight people took part in the trip and found that the work of the city and the county in the Bay Area has been substantial. He commented on the need for a more accurate name for the initiative, such as "Infrastructure Support Housing" because many of those people served by the project are teachers, police, and firemen who cannot otherwise afford housing in the area. The group looked at three projects. Mr. Keuth noted the creative

locations for the sites, such as on church land and California state land. He noted that land costs \$1.5 to \$3.5 million per acre or \$30 to \$80 per foot in that region

Mr. Keuth reported that the group heard from the Mayor and City Council of San Jose. He noted three basic tenets. First, quality and design can make the difference in a project being acceptable to the community or not. Second, the size of the project does not have to be large to be effective. Third, there is a need for a dedicated funding source, like the \$20 million Housing Trust Fund in California put together by the city and county.

Mr. Keuth said that a summary would be provided on what can be done in Arizona similar to what has been accomplished in California. He stressed the need for Arizona to act quickly in order to avoid housing prices comparable to California's.

In closing, Mr. Keuth noted the multi-million dollar transportation plan that was approved by the Regional Transportation Committee last week. He stated that their success was due in part to participation by the private and non-profit sectors. He proposed the formation of a new Housing Policy Committee based on the success of the Transportation Policy Committee.

Chairman Calderón thanked Mr. Keuth for his remarks and asked for comments or questions.

Ms. Diana Yazzie Devine reiterated Mr. Keuth's point about the importance of quality in affordable housing and the need for a dedicated funding source here in Arizona. She also noted that the progress in San Jose was led by the political strength in the community.

Ms. Barbara Williams noted that the success in California was achieved through partnerships with private lenders located in Silicone Valley.

Ms. Louisa Stark commented on the need to build affordable housing near rapid transit, as those are the people most likely to make use of it.

Mr. Fred Karnas reminded the group of the need to focus on the lowest income group that earns 30% less than median income. He cautioned against drifting toward the easier to serve group in the 40%-100% of median range.

Dr. Sheila Harris reiterated Mr. Karnas point and stated that a recent housing report showed that the population below 30% of median is hardest to serve.

Mr. Mary Mitchell of HUD announced a follow-up meeting for those committee members who participated in the trip to San Jose. It will take place on October 6th at the ASU downtown campus. He also warned that Phoenix must act now in order to avoid a housing crunch similar to that in San Jose.

Ms. Charlene Moran Flaherty added that the Housing Trust Fund that exists in California is divided into three segments: one-third is for funding rental units, one-third for individual housing units, and one-third for the homeless.

The committee viewed a video that highlighted the housing projects that have been built in San Jose.

6. Regional Continuum of Care Retreat Report

Chairman Calderón thanked the committee members who attended the retreat. He noted it was a success and provided the group with direction for the coming year. There will be four new time-limited ad hoc committees. They will focus on membership, faith-based involvement, public relations, and dedicated funding.

Chairman Calderón added that State Attorney General Terry Goddard has graciously agreed to chair the Membership Committee and that he himself will work with Mr. Goddard to convene that group.

The Public Relations Committee will be co-chaired by Ms. Terri Wogan and Mr. Al Maceas, Public Information Officer for Maricopa County.

The Faith-Based Committee will be co-chaired by Mr. Guy Mikkelson and Ms. Darlene Newsome.

The Dedicated Funding Committee will be co-chaired by Mr. Don Keuth and Mr. Mike Bielecki.

Chairman Calderón said he would be working with the co-chairs to recruit community members who are experts in each of the above areas. He invited any interested Regional Committee members to contact him or Ms. Terri Wogan if they would like to serve on any of these new committees. Within the next few weeks, the chairs will meet to define committee goals and schedule meetings. The Chairman said a progress report would be available next month.

Chairman Calderón thanked those who helped to fund the retreat and the trip to San Jose.

7. Announcements

Mr. Calderón began by announcing that Councilmember Dennis Cahill would be announcing his candidacy for Mayor of Tempe. Ms. Louisa Stark also commented that Councilmember David Ortega has also announced his candidacy for Mayor of Scottsdale.

Chairman Calderón congratulated the Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness on a very successful conference.

Mr. Marty Mitchell announced the Community Development Coalition of Arizona's Fall Issues Forum. It will take place at the ASU Downtown Campus on October 16, 2003 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Dr. Sheila Harris announced the building of eighty new housing units in El Mirage and in Tucson.

Sara Moya commented that the food and shelter applications are now available. The next Mesa United Way meeting will be on October 15, 2003 at 1:00 p.m.

Councilmember David Ortega commented that Scottsdale approved senior housing. Mc Dowell Village is located next to a Senior Center and provides over 100 units. Groundbreaking is scheduled for February 2004 and completion is targeted for 2005.

8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m. next regularly scheduled meeting of the Regional Continuum of Care Committee is scheduled for October 16, 2003 at MAG.